

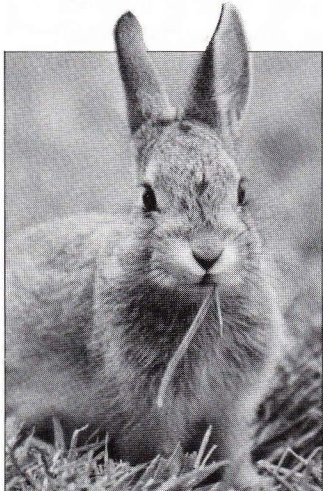
REGIONS REVIEW

SOUTHEAST

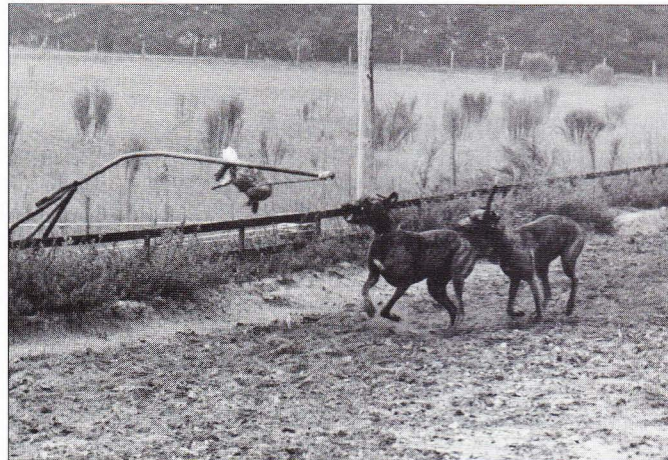
CRACKDOWN ON LIVE LURES

Greyhound trainers who illegally use live animals to train their dogs are coming under increasing pressure in Florida to halt the practice. In October, a nine-month undercover investigation conducted by The HSUS ended with the arrests of twelve people in Lee, Fla. Those arrested were present at a training track where racing greyhounds chased a live domestic rabbit tied to a mechanical arm. One month later, an arrest was made for transporting jackrabbits into the state, a violation of game regulations. The jackrabbits, presumably, were to be turned loose for greyhounds to chase and kill, a practice called coursing.

HSUS staff worked closely in the Lee investigation with officers from the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and the Madison County Sheriff's Department.



Rabbits are used as live lures to train greyhound racers.



Racing greyhounds chase a live rabbit tied to a mechanical arm at a Florida track as part of their training program.

GEORGIA POUND PROBLEMS

The inhumane conditions at an animal shelter in Dalton, Ga.,

have created a stir in that community. During a recent inspection of the facility by Southeast Regional Program Coordinator Laura Bevan,

young puppies were found dying in kennels, injured and sick animals were crowded into large group pens, and cats were housed with no food, water, or litter boxes.

Despite these unacceptable conditions, county officials made no attempt to correct the problems. The HSUS evaluation has since been released to the press and the situation has received local newspaper and television coverage, as well as coverage in Atlanta, Ga., and Chattanooga, Tenn. The Humane Society of Northwest Georgia, which requested the evaluation, is continuing to demand that the county make the necessary changes at the shelter to ensure that all its animals are humanely treated.

MID-ATLANTIC

PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

September 22 and 23 marked the sixty-sixth Conference of Federated Humane Societies of Pennsylvania, which was hosted by the Beaver County Humane Society of Monaca, Penn. Approximately forty humane organizations were represented. Mid-Atlantic Regional Director Nina Austenberg participated in the program. She gave a speech on the history of the New Jersey spay/neuter program to stimulate interest in enacting similar legislation in Pennsylvania.

PEOPLE AND POOCHES

For the second year in a row, more than five hundred people



Mid-Atlantic Regional Director Nina Austenberg and New Jersey Assemblyman William Schluter met last fall to discuss legislation to prevent the use of campaign contributions by special-interest groups to block passage of animal-welfare laws.

attended "People and Pooches," an event organized by Mid-Atlantic Regional Program Coordinator Rick Abel to educate people about the many different kinds of dogs, both mixed and purebred, that are available. Area representa-

tives of the New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, humane societies and animal-welfare groups, and breed clubs were on hand to answer questions and show dogs.

STATE ZOO OPPOSED

On three occasions, New England Regional Director John Dommers and Regional Program Coordinator Frank Ribaldo addressed members of the New Hampshire Senate committee studying the feasibility of establishing a New Hampshire zoological park on the former site of Benson's Zoo in Hudson. Mr. Dommers and Mr. Ribaldo spoke against the plan, citing the problems that led to the

closing of Benson's Zoo, including financial difficulties and declining numbers of visitors.

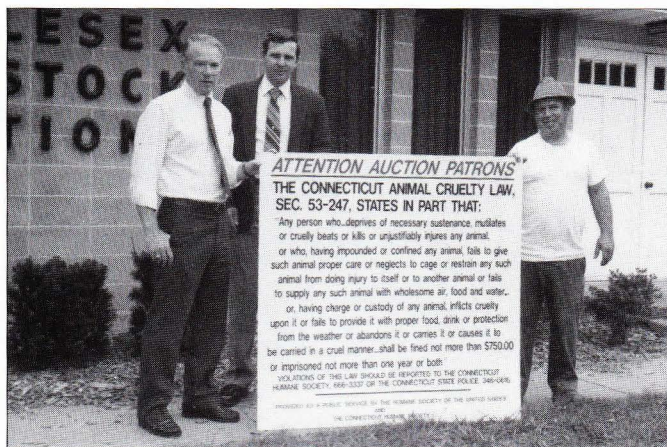
Despite this testimony, the committee appeared prepared to propose legislation favoring the zoo plan.

CRUELTY LAW SIGNS POSTED

Working with the Connecticut Humane Society, the New England Regional Office produced two 4' x 4' animal-cruelty-law warning signs, in English and Spanish versions, which have been posted at the Middlesex Livestock Auction in Middlefield, Conn.

HSUS and Connecticut Humane Society officials have investigated numerous complaints about the transportation and rough handling of animals by patrons of the weekly auction. In one case, Mr. Ribaldo observed a goat knocked unconscious after being thrown into a pickup truck.

The New England Regional Office plans to place similar signs at other livestock auctions in the region.



New England Regional Director John Dommers, Ray Denette of the Connecticut Humane Society, and Sebastian Scirpo, owner of the Middlesex Livestock Auction, display the animal-cruelty-law warning sign that was posted at the auction.

PULLING FOR LEGISLATION

Following Maine's lead, New Hampshire humane officials, working in cooperation with the New England Regional Office, are drafting proposed legislation to regulate animal-pulling contests. The legislation will be introduced in 1989.

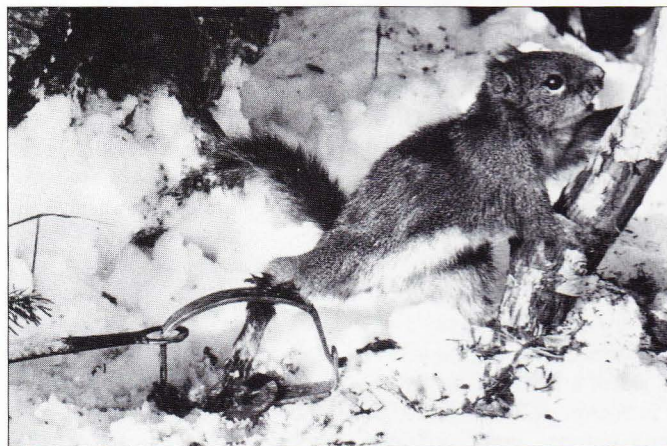
Mr. Ribaldo, who has been investigating animal-pulling contests for several years, is serving as an advisor to the group and is working to ensure that areas of Maine's legislation that make its law difficult to en-

force are not duplicated in the New Hampshire bid for protective legislation.

FUR VIDEO AVAILABLE

The New England Regional Office has available copies of the HSUS hard-hitting fur and trapping video, which contains two documentary programs that graphically show the cruelty inflicted on animals by leghold and other types of traps and on fur ranches.

The video is available to state federations, humane societies,



The horrors of leghold traps are shown in a new HSUS video.

individual groups, and HSUS members who wish to publicize the cruelties of the fur industry. Loan and sale copies are available through either the New England Regional office or the HSUS national office in Washington, D.C. ■

BREAKING NEW GROUND

On October 20, 1988, the Animal Rescue League (ARL) of Des Moines, Iowa, broke ground for a new shelter. The new facility is being built partially from HSUS designs and recommendations and will have the capacity to house more than two hundred animals.

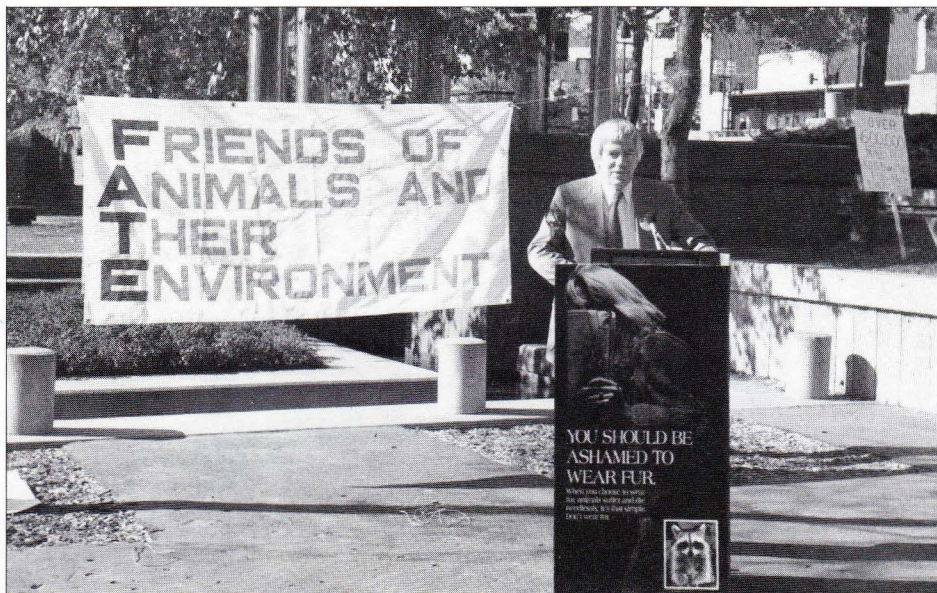
Midwest Regional Director Wendell Maddox was on hand for the ceremony and congratulated ARL Executive Director Ken Nixon and

the board of directors on their efforts on behalf of homeless animals.

PUPPY-MILL INVESTIGATION

The Midwest Regional Office continues to work to improve the treatment of dogs at midwest commercial breeding operations (puppy mills), where conditions are often horrendous. In the fall, Mr. Maddox led a television team on an investigation. The group videotaped conditions at puppy mills in Iowa, Missouri, and Nebraska that have been sending sick and diseased puppies into Florida. Hundreds of dogs were observed living in deplorable conditions.

The taping of the investigation aired on WFTV in Orlando, Fla., in November. ■



HSUS Vice President John Grandy spoke at an anti-fur demonstration in Minneapolis, Minn., in October that was sponsored by Friends of Animals and Their Environment (FATE) to draw attention to the cruelties of the trapping and fur industries.

GOOD NEWS FROM OHIO

Our thanks go to Ohio State Representative Frank Sawyer for successfully sponsoring a bill that will permit Ohio counties to set differential-licensing fees for sterilized and unsterilized dogs to create an incentive for dog owners to have their pets altered. Owners of fertile dogs will pay higher license fees and, therefore, make a larger contribution towards paying the costs of handling unwanted and surplus animals.

Great Lakes Regional Director Sandy Rowland is drafting suggested guidelines for counties to follow. These will be available to all Ohio humane societies and county commissioners. For more information, contact the Great Lakes Re-

gional Office, 735 Haskins St., Bowling Green, OH 43402-1696.

SUCCESS TIMES TWO

Criticism by animal-welfare activists, including the Great Lakes Regional Office and medical professionals, has resulted in the end of a fourteen-year, federally funded study at the University of Cincinnati that involved crushing the heads of live cats with a .22 caliber captive cartridge to simulate human head injuries. The Great Lakes Regional Office assisted the Cincinnati Animal Rights Community in its efforts to halt this study by bringing this issue to the media's attention. The office also contacted the Cincinnati prosecuting attorney's office to request that legal action be taken to end the study.

In Paulding County, Ohio, an eight-person jury recently found a fellow citizen guilty of

nineteen counts of cruelty to farm animals. More than thirty animals, including cows, dogs, sheep, and horses, were confiscated from the Steward Gunderman farm through the execution of a search warrant and the cooperative efforts of the county health department, dog warden/humane agent, and sheriff's department. Sentencing included total fines of \$2,200 and sixty days in jail, the latter being suspended on the condition that no further violations occur during a probationary period.

Great Lakes Regional Program Coordinator Robin Weirauch assisted the county prosecutor and humane agent with the case.

OHIO LAW COALITION

The Ohio LAW (Legislation for Animal Welfare) Coalition has recently formed in Ohio. The coalition is patterned after the

Maryland LAW Coalition, which has been very successful in passing animal-protection legislation.

The new coalition is raising funds to hire a lobbyist, who will speak for the animal-welfare movement in Ohio in the upcoming legislation session. Of primary concern will be passage of a law that will amend Ohio's outdated anti-cruelty statute.

For more information on the coalition, contact the Great Lakes Regional Office or Ohio LAW, 239 Currier Dr., Columbus, OH 43207.

BEAR NECESSITIES

Early last fall, the Great Lakes Regional Office was notified through the World Society for the Protection of Animals that the Moscow Circus would be touring the United States. Prior to the circus's performing in Ohio, Ms. Rowland wrote to local sponsors, notifying them of The HSUS's concern for the care and treatment of the animals. She was permitted to see the animals in Cleveland. Her findings indicated that some of the bears, although otherwise well-treated, were suffering from confinement in extremely small cages, approximately 5' by 3 1/2', that did not permit them to move about.

When the circus moved on to Detroit, Ms. Rowland notified the Michigan Humane Society of her findings, along with her recommendations for easing the bears' situation. The Michigan Humane Society worked with circus management and the bears' trainer, and the circus has now agreed to provide a specially designed large exercise cage for the bears. ■